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## COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-6035

ONE HUNDRED NINTH CONGRESS

June 12, 2006

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The Honorable John A. Boehner  
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U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

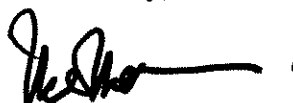
Dear Leader Boehner:

I am writing in regard to this week's debate on American policy in Iraq. Many of our colleagues greatly appreciated the commitment you made to have a full and open debate on our policy there. It is of the utmost concern to this nation and to our military personnel who are serving and have served in Iraq.

For that reason, I was distressed to see the current draft of the resolution for debate. The title of the resolution and much of the substance relates to the global war on terrorism, and only secondarily to the war in Iraq. I think you well understand that the war in Iraq is a separate conflict, an insurgency with terrorist elements and sectarian violence. We promised and owe the American people a focused and dedicated debate about our policy and the future of American commitment in Iraq. Our involvement there will affect not only the future of the Iraqi nation and our interests in the Middle East region, but the future readiness of our military to deter would-be adversaries and prepare for any future conflicts.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to assist in this process in any way I can.

Sincerely,



Ike Skelton  
Ranking Democrat